27 JUN
MADRAS

THE

Student's Own Magazine

For India, Burma, and Ceylon.

A MONTHLY JOURNAL OF EDUCATION.

VOL. 1. No. 5. New Series. | MAY, 1906. | Re. 1 per annum. Single copy, 2 Annas.

WHY MANUFACTURES SHOULD BE ENCOURAGED.

IN one of the sacred books of the Jews or Hebrew nation we find the words, "Whoever does not teach his son a trade, is as if he brought him up to be a robber." They were wise and recognised the value of manual labour, how it strengthens not only the physical powers but the mental powers as well. The ancient Greeks and Romans looked with contempt on those who worked with their hands; not so the Jews, from highest to lowest we find them labouring: they were shoemakers, carpenters, builders, potters, weavers, and these men who so worked were actually men of learning and of noble birth; they taught b example that all work of any kind if done with all one's might is great and noble.

Now, when thinking seriously of a future profession or business, it has appeared lately as though boys in India had few ideas of making use of their hands as well as their heads. Every one must be a doctor, a lawyer, or a teacher ; manual labour, which is so much wanted in India and on which so much depends, is in very many cases utterly despised, and thought to be fit only for men of low castes or pariahs. Now, why should this be? We tremble to think of the future of India if all who take their degree *must* enter one of the professions mentioned above, for how can they earn their living thus? The country is crying out for skilled labour and for men with brains able to direct that skilled labour, and who so well fitted as an educated Indian to guide and direct his fellow countrymen? All the qualifications which make up a skilful manufacturer depend entirely on education. There have been men in the world like Watt and others, who have suddenly discovered some factor in labour, but could they have utilised the factor, or made it a complete whole without that education which trains the reasoning powers. Ask yourselves, boys, whether Watt, who saw the tremendous power of steam in the lifting of the kettle lid, could ever have applied his knowledge of that power, not only as a raising force, but as a propelling force, without an education in the higher branches of mathematics, and of science and chemistry. India has its chance now, and we should like to see every boy from his early youth trained to some one branch of manual labour. Most of our readers, we suppose, have read the accounts of the terrible starvation in England, mainly in large towns, through the impossibility of finding work for the men to do. Why is this? We used not to hear of it ; it is mainly, we believe, because young men who in former years would have been skilled labourers in some trade, have learnt to think that what was good enough for their forefathers is a disgrace to them and they have drifted from their homes to the larger towns to be clerks or writers, but the market for such is very limited and is now full to overflowing. India is the very largest in area of His Majesty's dominions and the richest in many of those things which would make trade easy, and

education should enable the citizens of India to improve and to perfect those manufactures the rudiments of which have been known for so many ages to the Hindus. But trades and manufactures can only be improved by association with other countries, just as any kind of knowledge can only be acquired from those who have in their turn again been taught by others.

Let us consider a few branches, to which boys might from their earliest youth give some time, and which being a recreation would not in any way interfere with the curriculum of any school or college. Take, for instance, carpentering. The people of the East, generally, are known to be extremely clever with their fingers, and they have every facility in India for this work. Then, again, cotton grows freely, and there might be many more factories started than now exist, but the workers must turn their attention in early youth to the study of cotton goods, as well as to history and geography, and as the West has always been glad to borrow ideas, and get help from the East, so the East must have assistance from the West. Our magazine is purely non-political and non-religious. We argue on neither side on these questions, but we desire to take a broad general view of things, to show how absolutely necessary one nation is to another. The Americans are famous for their inventions in machinery, but we think it is an acknowledged fact that in Europe these inventions are brought to greater perfection than in America itself. The characters of the peoples of the different nations has much to do with these things. No nation, however, can expect to thrive which rejects the help of other nations, and we, the subjects of one king, must learn to think imperially and to realize that no matter what nation, caste or religion we are of, we can all help each other in the race of life. Where would England itself be without imported grain, cotton, silk, and hundreds of other things which might be mentioned. If each nation were intended to be sufficient for itself, then think of the multitude of things we should miss in our daily life. Education should make all long for travel and a knowledge of the manufactures of one's own

lands; should make a boy eager to see those manufactures perfected, and even to see every place where more knowledge can be gained. Travel and increase of knowledge, which must come with the association with other men and other minds, need not make any one discontented, because it should be undertaken with the one single idea of doing good to one's native land. Let a youth gain all the knowledge he can from books and the works of his ancestors, but let him not stand still then, and be content to run on in the same groove. Take up a trade, not only to become rich, but in order to open up new fields in manufacture, and prevent the poverty and distress we see in many parts of India. Everything depends on the educated Indian. He can help his fellow countrymen by showing them the advantages to be gained by their intercourse with men of other nations and other minds.

No. VIII.

RAJA SIR T. MADAVA RAO.

Lives of great men all remind us,
We can make our lives sublime,
And, departing, leave behind us
Footprints in the sands of time.

The great man of whom we write this month was born of parents holding a very good position in Travancore. He first saw light in Kumbakonam in 1828: but he did not live there for long, as we find him living in Madras, in his early childhood, and again he was sent there for his education. The Presidency College, then called the High School of the Madras University, had as its Principal at that time Mr. Powell, and Madava Rao made full use of his privileges in being under such an excellent master. In his school life we cannot trace any very striking or brilliant work, but he had those other qualities which help a man on in life, and make him great, when often the

161755

more brilliant and apparently cleverer men are left behind in the race. He was careful, and exact in his work, and an excellent worker. His favourite studies were mathematics and science, and from stories told of him in his youth, he seems to have been most ingenious in making instruments for these studies out of bamboos and bits of magnifying glass.

When he had taken his degree, Madava Rao became for some time a teacher in his college, and then obtained a Government post in the Accountant-General's office. It was while in this office that he gained the first step, which led to his rapid promotion. He became tutor to the then young Travancore Princes, one of whom, the late Maharajah, was distinguished for his learning, and to his tutor Madava Rao is undoubtedly due the credit which both Princes gained for their wise and just rule. So much depends on the man who is chosen to guide the young, and more especially when the fate of a state depends on the training. We can safely say that Madava Rao was a wise guide, and after his tutorial work was ended, he became first a Member of the Revenue Board, under the Dewan, and then rose to be Dewan-Peishcar.

It was in this work that Madava Rao made himself conspicuous for his zeal, for the welfare of the people, and for the tact which he displayed under the most difficult circumstances. The southern division of Travancore was in a most unsettled state and the questions at issue were most difficult ones to solve, as they were mainly cases of *social* tyranny and cruelty. A man is a king in his own castle, and it is a terribly trying thing to work as Madava Rao had to do, pointing out the wrong, influencing those who were not dead to all good feeling, punishing those who would not listen to reason and so reducing chaos and confusion to light and order. To quote the words of John Bruce Norton: "Within the short space of a year, Madava Rao has distributed justice between man and man, without fear or favour; has expelled dacoits; has raised the revenues and his minutes and State papers show the liberality, the soundness and statesmanship of his views and *principles*. He has received the thanks of his sovereign.....Now here is a man raised up as it were amid the anarchy and confusion of his country, to save it from destruction. ....He is, indeed, a splendid example of what education may do for the native."

The Maharajah then reigning over Travancore was weak and we find that his kingdom was in great disorder—such dis-

order as arises when a ruler does not personally interest himself in his subjects. He was not *bad*, but he did not realise that he owed a duty to those placed under his control and that a king cannot spend his time in ease and leisure in his palace or pagoda. The more we learn of the history of nations, the more we see how great is the responsibility of those placed in high positions. A child will imitate its father and the subjects of a king will imitate their sovereign, though we must not hold a man entirely responsible for his children's conduct or a king for his people's; yet we know the force of example and the acts of a ruler should not be open to misconstruction.

The disastrous state of Travancore affairs caused the English Government to interfere, and plans were being made to place the state directly under British rule. But when this step was in contemplation, the Maharajah wisely secured help in the person of Madava Rao, and he became Dewan or Prime Minister of Travancore in 1857, when only thirty years of age. He begged the Madras Government to allow him seven years in which to effect the necessary reforms, and to raise Travancore to that position which it should hold as an independent state.

The task which loomed before him would have daunted any other man we think, for the country was in an almost hopeless condition. But Madava Rao was not frightened, and overcame each difficulty by his patience and persevering industry. His honesty and upright dealing gradually influenced the people, quite as much as the firmness with which he put down oppression in the most fearless way. Trade was improved by his system, and both the British and Travancore Governments were grateful to him for the reforms which he effected. Honors in recognition of all his labours were given to Madava Rao. He was made a K. C. S. I. and became a Fellow of the Madras University.

In 1872 he was forced to resign the Dewanship, although he had hoped to have some rest and quiet in the place where he had worked so hard. Those evil advisers of the Maharajah, (whom the

Dewan had been obliged to punish for their ill-doings) poisoned the Maharajah's mind against him and trouble arose : but when Madava Rao left Travancore, he had the happy consciousness of knowing that he left the state prosperous, whereas he had found it, when he took up the Dewanship, a wild, savage, utterly disorganised country in hourly fear of being deprived of its freedom.

The following year Sir T. Madava Rao went to Indore, appointed by the Government of India to administer that state, and in 1875 he was sent to Baroda to restore order there. The state of things was even worse there than he had found them in Travancore when he accepted the Dewanship of that place. Robbery and oppression were the ruling powers and the country was in the hands of sowcars, who had armed forces under their control and ground every one to death. Suffice it to say, that in spite of all difficulties confusion was soon reduced to order, and schools, libraries, and other valuable institutions soon sprang up and Baroda became a flourishing state. Sir T. Madava Rao himself said, "We have had to investigate and come to a decision on a multitude of matters which in number and complexity are probably unsurpassed in any other Native State." The King of England, then Prince of Wales, came to India while Sir T. Madava Rao was Dewan-Regent of Baroda and he is noticed very particularly in a "Diary in India," by William Howard Russell. In one place he give him high praise, saying, "He has not begun by sweeping away all old institutions and customs, tearing up tradition by the roots, and leaving a bleeding and irritated surface to receive the application of new ideas : but he has worked on the old basis, and repaired the ancient structure." In 1877, he received the title of Raja, and he retained his Dewanship in Baroda until the Maharajah came of age in 1882.

The Maharajah gave him three lakhs of rupees on his retirement, and Sir T. Madava Rao came to Madras, living a retired life until his death in April 1891. He spent a great part of his time in reading and studying the social questions of the day, and took a great interest in female education, while he strongly urged the

evil result to both state and people of early marriages. His book entitled "Hints on the Training of Native Children, by a Native Thinker," is a valuable work, and has been translated into Marathi, Guzerathi, and Malayalam.

We recognise in Madava Rao an earnest, upright, honourable man. His strong personality influenced all with whom he came in contact, and his thorough determination to sift the right from the wrong, made him respected and loved by English and Indian alike. He lived in difficult times. He held almost impossible posts, and yet we find no stain on his character. Bribery and corruption were all round him, but none dared approach him. He was one of the most learned men of his times, yet withal most humble. He, in short, loved his fellow-creatures, and all that was beautiful in art and nature, but his greatness, wherein we must mark his footprints, lay in his love for his fellowmen, in his constant efforts to raise India's people again to the height from which they had fallen. Any nation would be proud to call him "*Native*" and India should reckon him as one of the brightest and most brilliant of her scholarly, upright men.

M. K. B.

Thoroughness always Pays.

Some years ago, in a small town, a young man who was just beginning to work as a journeyman-carpenter, was hired to mend a fence by one of the petty municipal office-holders of the place.

"Don't put any unnecessary work on it," the man said, "I just want it sufficiently strong to keep out any stray livestock, and being over there out of sight behind the shrubbery, it won't matter what it looks like. It isn't worth more than a shilling. If you're willing to do it for that, go ahead."

The young man went to work, and spent the whole day on the job. When he went for his pay his employer said, "You

haven't just finished, have you? What's the matter with you?" and he went out to look at the repaired part.

It was not only substantially done, but with the utmost neatness and care.

"I told you I didn't care how it looked, didn't I?" said the owner, angrily. "Now you'll be wanting a day's pay for it!"

"I said I'd do it for a shilling," returned the workman, shouldering his tools, "because I wanted the money. If I'd finished it in half the time and gone home I should only have been sitting about there doing nothing. I did the work to suit myself. Now if the price suits you, that's the end of it."

"Well, you're a mighty foolish boy, that's all I've got to say," replied the other, turning on his heel as he handed over the money.

Not long after this the young carpenter went to a neighbouring town and steadily worked his way up. Some ten years later the owner of the mended fence had risen to the position of a leading municipal dignitary, and the town he lived in was about to erect a number of fine municipal buildings. Among the many applicants for the contract, which, besides being an important one financially, would undoubtedly make an enviable name for its successful builder, the commissioner noticed a name that seemed in some way familiar to him. After a moment he recalled the incident of the patched fence, which had really made a much deeper impression on him than he had allowed himself to admit at the time. The estimate of the young carpenter, who was now a contractor, proved to be a reasonable one, and the work was given into his hands.

"You want bonds"—the man began.

"No," returned the commissioner, "it won't be necessary in this case, I think. That patch you once put on my fence is guarantee enough. It's standing yet."

Three Short Tales.

A conjurer and a tailor once happened to converse together. "Alas!" cried the tailor, "what an unhappy poor creature am I! If people take it into their heads to live without clothes, I am undone; and I have no other trade to have recourse to." "Indeed, friend, I pity you sincerely," replied the conjurer; but, thank Heaven, things are not quite so bad with me; for, if one trick should fail, I have a hundred tricks more for them yet. However, if at any time you are reduced to beggary, apply to me and I will relieve you." A famine overspread the land; the tailor managed to live, because his customers could not do without clothes; but the poor conjurer, with all his hundred tricks, could find none that had money to throw away. It was in vain that he promised to eat fire or to vomit pins; no single creature would relieve him, until he was at last obliged to beg from the very tailor whose calling he had formerly despised.

Once upon a time a goose fed its young by a pond side; and a goose, in such circumstances, is always extremely proud. If any other animal, without the least design to offend, happened to pass that way, the goose was immediately at it. The pond, she said, was hers, and she would maintain her right in it, and support her honour, while she had a bill to hiss, or a wing to flutter. In this manner she drove away ducks, pigs, and chickens, nay even the insidious cat was seen to scamper away from her. A lounging mastiff, however, happened to pass by, and thought it no harm if he should lap a little of the water, as he was thirsty. The guardian goose flew at him like a fury, pecked at him with her beak, and slapped him with her feathers. The dog grew angry, and had twenty times a mind to give her a sly snap; but, suppressing his indignation, because his master was nigh, "Shame on thee," cried he, "for a fool; sure those who have neither strength nor weapons to fight, should at least be civil." So saying, he went forward to the pond, quenched his thirst, in spite of the goose, and followed his master.

A painter of eminence once resolved to finish a piece which should please the whole world. When, therefore, he had drawn a picture in which his utmost skill was exhibited, it was exposed in the public market-place, with the directions at the bottom for every spectator to mark, with a brush that lay by, every limb and feature which seemed defective. The spectators came, and in general applauded; but each, willing to show his talent at criticism, marked whatever he thought improper. At evening when the painter came, he was mortified to find the picture one universal blot, not a single stroke that had not the marks of disapprobation. Not satisfied with this trial, the next day he was resolved to try them in a different manner, and, exposing a picture as before, desired that every spectator would mark those beauties he approved or admired. The people complied, and the artist returning, found his picture covered with marks of beauty, every stroke that had been yesterday condemned, now received marks of approbation. "Well", cried he, "I now find that the best way to succeed is to aim at satisfying the few."

"Give us Men!".

Give us men!
Men from every rank,
Fresh and free and frank;
Men of thought and reading,
Men of light and leading,
Men of loyal breeding,
England's welfare speeding:
Men of faith and not of faction,
Men of lofty aim in action.
Give us men—I say again,
Give us men!

Give us men !
Strong and stalwart ones ;
Men whom highest hope inspires,
Men whom purest honour fires,
Men who trample self beneath them,
Men who make their country wreathe them
As her noble sons,
Worthy of their sires !
Men who never shame their mothers,
Men who never fail their brothers ;
True, however false are others ;
Give us men—I say again,
Give us men !

Give us men !
Men who when the tempest gathers,
Grasp the standard of their fathers
In the thickest fight ;
Men who strike for home and altar
(Let the coward cringe and falter),
God defend the right !
True as truth, though lorn and lonely,
Tender—as the brave are only ;
Men who tread where saints have trod,
Men for country, king, and God ;
Give us men ! I say again, again,
Give us such men.

—*Selected.*

TIGERS.

The name tiger is frequently used when speaking of such animals as the leopard of Africa or the jaguar of America. It seems curious that this mistake should be made, for the only real tiger belongs to Asia and is an animal almost as large and strong as the lion. It is the *Felis Tigris*, while the other animals

belong to the class *Felidæ*. We are most of us possessors of cats and if we study their habits and ways, we shall see that they and tigers are of the same genus: but the tiger is one of the most ferocious among beasts of prey. Let us notice some of its characteristics. It belongs to the mammalia, those animals which do not lay eggs and hatch them, but which produce their young ones in a living state and feed them with their milk. Another characteristic of the mammal is that it never has *more* than two pairs of limbs, and these are evidently made for walking *on* the earth, as most of this class live on the surface of the earth. Some, however, burrow under the earth, and in this case their front legs are shorter than the hind ones, while those which live in trees have their limbs fitted for hanging or climbing. But no mammal is without forelegs.

Some further characteristics are these: nearly all the animals of the genus are covered with hair, but in some cases it is very long and in some quite short, sometimes soft and silky; sometimes like bristles, but still, always *hair*. We cannot go into the causes of the peculiarity of these growths, but we can notice the differences for ourselves and we shall find in many mammals that they have one long, stiff kind of hair on the surface, and the under hair or fur is soft, fine, and very short, resembling the down on birds. The eyes too have a peculiar characteristic, which are the same in a cat, and like all animals of that tribe they have very soft pads to their feet, and are thus enabled to stealthily approach their prey. In India these animals are well known and in villages much dreaded. Curiously enough, they are also held in reverence in many parts of India, and the tiger's whiskers are supposed to have a peculiar charm, as many of our readers will know.

A story told by an officer in Madras will be of interest. We do not know where the adventure occurred, beyond the fact that it was in the Madras Presidency. But anyway, this gentleman was travelling with a sick friend who was in a palanquin. As sometimes

happens, without any reason, the bearers ran away, and the only possible thing to do was to leave the sick man in the palanquin, and go back to the nearest village to find more bearers. The officer started off. We all know how often a curious, nervous feeling attacks us, especially on a moonlight night such as this was, and the officer fancied that a tiger was following him. Determined, however, to do all he could for his sick friend, he tried to rid himself of the idea but it had taken possession of him and he remembered that should he be attacked by any animal, he was entirely without the means of defence, as he had no weapons! Cannot one imagine his horror when, on turning round once more, he saw crouching on the ground, no creature of his imagination, but a huge tiger. He shouted as loudly as he could, and was delighted to see the tiger disappear among the bamboos at the side of the road. Knowing well that a tiger will stalk its prey for miles, he could hardly believe that it had gone, but he walked on as quickly as he could, trying to forget what he had seen. When he felt his courage reviving, he looked again into the jungle by the road side, and there he saw the tiger, stealthily and quietly walking along in line with him, and we cannot doubt but that the beast was merely hunting him down, and awaiting its time to pounce upon him. His shouting had no effect this time when he tried it, and he dared not run, for that would have cut off his last hope of life. He walked on as quickly as he could, but to his horror he found at a bend of the road that the tiger had taken a short cut and was sitting on the path waiting for him. The officer was almost paralysed with fear, but hearing voices in the distance he tried to shout. Alas! his power was gone, and he could not speak. He knew nothing more, until he was roused from a deep faint, and then he found that the voices he had heard were those of some men who were carrying a palanquin. They had cried out at sight of the tiger, and the traveller they were carying, who fortunately had his gun ready, rushed to the rescue. Unfortnately the tiger escaped: but we are glad to think that the officer's life was saved.

We give below some 'Reminiscences of a Planter' regarding tigers, well illustrating their habits.

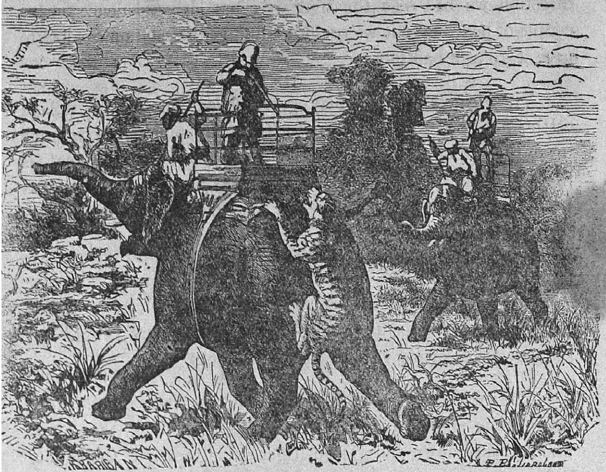
"In the year A. D. 1860, I came out to India as a Coffee Planter, and settled down in South Coorg, commonly called the "Bamboo." The Bamboo at that time was a very wild country with nothing but jungle, no roads—and the three or four Planters that were there were scattered far and wide. Of course, in a wild country like this, savage beasts abounded,—elephants, tigers, bison, etc., etc. It was quite dangerous to leave one's bungalow after dark, without some coolies with torches and a drum, to keep off the wild animals.

I remember, one evening going out to drive and sleep at a neighbour's bungalow, (at least it was only a mud hut with two rooms, a sitting and a bedroom). As there were so many tigers about, the two dogs were brought in at night, and chained to the leg of the dining table. I slept that night on a sofa in the dining room. It being the hot weather the door was left open and a light was burning in the room. I was lying awake thinking when much to my astonishment a tiger walked into the room, and took away one of the dogs within a few feet of where I was sleeping. You can imagine my feelings at the time, but was only too thankful that he did not take me in preference to the dog.

I came back again the following night to this bungalow, as my friend and I had arranged to sit up and shoot the tiger. The other dog was therefore tied outside with a very thick rope, opposite to a window where we sat with our guns; but the poor beast was so frightened that he actually bit this rope through and came inside. We had not the heart to tie him outside again, so we retired for the night and saw and heard nothing more of the tiger.

Although tigers were plentiful it was very difficult, indeed, to get a shot at them, or kill them—they were so cunning and wary.

The only tiger that I ever got during my long residence there was in Hunsur, in the Mysore country. I had gone down there to spend a few days, when a beat for tigers was got up. News was brought in one day that there were some tigers in a piece of jungle about four miles from Hunsur. The Commissariat Officer and three of us arranged a beat to try and get one or two of these tigers. We went out on the following day with about two hundred men as beaters. They had with them horns, arms, spears, etc. We also got, through the kindness of the Commissariat Officer, ten of the Government elephants. The beaters and elephants were sent to encircle entirely a piece of jungle and to beat inwards towards an open piece of grass land where we hoped the tigers would break out, and where we placed ourselves. We had already had machans (pandals) made up in two trees at the edge of the grass land, and two of us went up into one tree and two into the other. The beaters began to beat the jungle in the far distance, in the form of a circle—and as they came on they gradually made this circle smaller and smaller. In about three-quarters of an hour, the beaters and elephants had by degrees come near the spot that we were in. We all of us naturally thought that we had come in vain, and that the tigers must have left that part of the jungle on the previous day. The beaters were, therefore, ordered to stop beating, and we were preparing to get down from our trees when I suddenly smelt a tiger. I therefore said to my friend "Let us wait one minute. I am sure that there is a tiger here, as I can smell him." I had hardly spoken the word, when out came three tigers. Two of them broke through the beaters, but the third came quietly out and looked at one of the elephants. I immediately fired, and very luckily hit the animal through the heart. He gave one roar, and bounded over a piece of water, making off into the jungle again. We all prepared for an attack, as tigers when they are wounded invariably return and show fight, often leaping on to the elephant, as shown in the illustration. As he did not return, however, we got on to the bare backs of two elephants and went into the jungle to see what had become of him. There we even-



tually found him lying stone dead. He was a fine beast, measuring over eight feet from tip of nose to tip of tail. He was strapped to the back of an elephant and taken into Hunsur.

We had another small beat, but got nothing; and as the day was getting on, and sun hot, we mounted our horses and rode back to Hunsur to breakfast.

There was another little incident about tigers, which I may as well mention. I was sitting in the front verandah of a bungalow, on my estate, and three other planters were with me. It was about two o'clock in the day, and a cart of mine had just come up from Mysore with provisions, etc. The bullocks had not yet been unyoked from the cart, when a large tiger sprang out from among the coffee trees on to the back of one of the bullocks and clawed him dreadfully. The bullock was, however, fastened to the cart, and as the tiger could not get him away, he bolted. We all of us rushed into the bungalow for our guns, and went off in the

direction we had seen the tiger go; but although we spent a couple of hours over it we could not find the beast, and so had to give it up as a bad job.

These tigers used to play great havoc among the village cattle, and I often tried to poison them by putting strychnine into the hind quarters of the dead bullocks, as *that* is the part of the animal which the tiger eats first. By this means I poisoned a great many jackals, etc., but never once got a tiger.

There was another occasion when I came into very close proximity with a tiger. I went out into the jungle to "trace" a road when I came across some big rocks. I left my theodolite with my servants, and went forward to see where I could get the best place for my road to pass these rocks.

The underwood in the jungle was at that time pretty high, it being the monsoon time. On going along, I found the underwood crushed down and a large tiger lying there. I fortunately had the presence of mind to stare him steadily in the face. Instead of pouncing upon me as I expected, the beast got up, gave a roar and walked quietly away. Had I shewn the slightest sign of fear and stepped backwards, the tiger would have been on me in an instant"—J. Mc. V. S.

The Iguanodon.

Many, many years ago in England and other European countries were found creatures of the animal world which are now quite extinct. Skeletons of various kinds are discovered in all countries which do not correspond to any of the animals now existing, and it is not only most interesting, but most instructive, to trace the class of animal life to which the skeletons of these creatures show that they must have belonged. One of the most curious we have ever heard of is that known as the Iguanodon, a kind of lizard many yards in length. Compare it with a crocodile,

or any of the larger kind of animals, and they would appear to be mere pigmies by the side of this extraordinary creature. In Belgium, nearly thirty years ago, skeletons were found, one of which measured over twenty feet. The shape was much like that of a bird, but it had four legs, the front ones being much shorter than the hind ones and resembling those of a kangaroo. But how puzzled the discoverer of the skeletons must have been, when he saw on each foot three toes with claws like a bird's! The head, likewise, was most baffling, for it was a huge beak; but though there were no front teeth, there were some at the back of the beak, which proved it to be an animal which ate leaves, and grain. Probably the hind legs were long and strong in order that it might sit or stand on them, and eat the tender leaves from the top of the young trees.

Many huge and curious creatures have lived in the primeval forests, but none more curious than the Iguanodon. In the West Indies there is still found a lizard called the Iguana, which appears to be a miniature of its larger brother. It is rarely more than five feet in length, very beautiful in colour, with a very long tail. It is very fond of water, and is said to be very good to eat. It lives on vegetables and leaves, and although it does not devour fish, it remains under water sometimes for hours.

The people of the Bahamas keep these lizards as pets, and they grow quite tame. In their wild state they are hunted by a certain kind of dog, kept for that purpose, just as in India and England there are fox-hounds and deer-hounds. We once saw a picture of what the Iguanodon was supposed to be like, and it could only be described as a huge kangaroo, with head, beak, and claws of a bird, while the body and tail looked as scaly as those of an armadillo. We shall have more to say about lizards next month. They are attractive little creatures, and these monsters of the vanished years make us think that the Fairy Tales, and stories of dragons, may have contained many grains of truth.

M. K. B.

IN THE "LAND OF THE MORNING CALM."

Koreans and their peculiar ways.

Korea is a curious country, its people having many peculiarities which belong neither to China nor Japan, much as its inhabitants have in common with those two nations.

The Chinaman we know as a race of hard workers, and the Jap as a quick, ingenious, and active folk; but the Korean is an Oriental "Weary Willie." No one knows how to idle more gracefully than he. He takes existence so easily that he will not even go to the trouble of avoiding dangers that threaten his life. In those districts where tigers are numerous the Korean villagers constantly sleep with the doors of their houses open. Now and again a sleeping Korean disappears, to the accompaniment of angry growls and soft, padded footsteps. The survivors are deeply grieved, but console themselves with the reflection that life is uncertain for all of us.

When the electric tramway line was laid down in Sëoul, the capital, two Koreans were discovered one day sleeping with their heads actually pillowed on the rails.

In justice to the Korean women, however, it must be said that the charge of indolence cannot fairly be laid to their account. They are models of industry, working all day in the fields while their husbands smoke the meditative pipe or drowse contentedly in the sun. Often a Korean wife will sit up late at night to wash and "get up" the long white coat in which the male Korean is proud to be seen abroad. She has no fear of ruining her good looks, for—in the eyes of foreigners, at least—Korean women are amongst the homeliest of their sex. The marriage customs of Korea, however, give the women an importance of a kind. They are, at any rate, less likely to become neglected old maids than their more civilised white sisters.

The male Korean only acquires the dignity of manhood by becoming a Benedict. Until then, indeed, he is not even entitled

to wear a hat. The Korean boy, therefore, being quite as anxious to be considered a man as are boys nearer home, marries early in life, sometimes at the age of twelve. Once married he takes precedence of all bachelors, even though they may be grey-haired men. Needless to say, unmarried men are rarely bachelors by choice. Generally they are doomed to single life by lack of funds, a hard fate indeed, for until a man is married he is regarded as a child. The position has one compensation, however. They are treated with indulgence, and not regarded as responsible for their actions any more than infants.

As befits an easy-going race, given to take the world as it comes, the Koreans are a kindly and well-disposed people. They are much given to forms and ceremonies, and, like the Chinese, they have a great reverence for old age. As in China, too, it is considered polite to inquire the age of a stranger or guest. A Korean woman who understated her age, when asked, would do so for a very different reason than that which would impel a European lady to the same step. The Korean lady would be inspired by modesty; she would not care to claim all the respect to which her years entitled her!

A curious feature of Korean life, and one in which it presents a marked contrast to Japan and China, is seen in the absence of umbrellas. On wet days the Koreans appear in the streets in coats and hats of oiled paper.

Surgeons in Feathers.

A well-known naturalist declares that some birds are capable of treating their own wounds. He quotes the case of a snipe which has often been observed engaged in repairing damages. With its beak and feathers it makes very creditable dressing, applying plasters to wounds, and even securing a broken limb by means of a stout ligature.

On one occasion he killed a snipe which had on its chest a large dressing composed of down taken from other parts of the body, and securely fixed to the wound. Twice he has brought home snipe with interwoven feathers strapped on to the site of the fracture of a limb.

The most interesting example was that of a snipe, both of whose legs he had unfortuuately broken by a misdirected shot.

He only recovered the bird the day following, and then found that the poor thing had contrived to apply dressings and a sort of splint to both limbs.

In another case, a snipe, which was observed to fly away with a broken leg, was subsequently found to have forced the fragments of bone into a parallel position, the upper fragment reaching to the knee, and secured them there by means of a strong band of feathers and moss intermingled. The observers were particularly struck by the application of a bandage of a kind of flat-leafed grass wound round the limb in a spiral form.

NOTICE.

A Fountain Pen.

We have received from the General Supplies Company, Mylapore, Madras, a "Fortune" fountain pen, price Rs. 3. It has been specially manufactured in England for the Company and is a really good and exceedingly cheap article. We can recommend it to our student friends with every confidence.

The Essay Competition.

We are much pleased this month with the essays sent in : they are many in number, and several of them so good that we have found it difficult to award the prize. We should be very glad if competitors would state their ages on the coupons.

The Proprietor's prize is awarded to Desai Amratlal, Ambalal, No. M—67, because the thoughts and composition are good ; but a second prize must be given to M. N. Balaraj Urs, No 716, as

his work is very good. We (the Composition Editor) give this prize.

Other essays commended are, No. 928, No. 215, No. 114. One *without a coupon* is disqualified. This is a great pity, as it is a very good piece of composition.

The subject for next month is "Courage," and we ask our essayists to study the subject well, in its two aspects. Give as many instances as you can from real life, and consider, in connection with Courage, "Heroism and Presence of Mind."

No Essay may exceed four pages of foolscap length.

We shall hereafter give a question or two of an educative nature each month, and at the end of the year award a prize to the subscriber who has answered the greatest number of questions correctly. We begin by a question in literature this month.

I Give the context, with authors and their dates, of the following quotations :—

1. "The man that hath no music in himself."
2. "What's done we partly may compute."
3. "Confusion worse confounded."
4. "Conquest has explored more than ever curiosity has done."
5. "The noblest mind the best contentment has."
6. "Sits the wind in that corner."
7. "God made the country, and man made the town."
8. "Nature made a pause, an awful pause!"
9. "Dare to be true, nothing can need a lie."
10. "And the devil did grin, for his darling sin, is the pride that apes humility."
11. "I hold every man a debtor to his profession."
12. "And all may do what has by man been done."

The registered numbers of those who give correct answers will be published in our next issue, and the Composition Editor will write out the full answers, for the benefit of those who have not found them all out.